

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 RSR-01 /148 W

----- 094714

R 160716Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3566

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USUN NEW YORK 441

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 2405

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, MZ, OAU

SUBJECT: ALLEGED MOZAMBIQUE MASSACRES

REFS: (A) DAR ES SALAAM 2364 (NOTAL); (B) LOURENCO
MARQUES 466

1. FRELIMO HQ. IN DAR ES SALAAM HAS STILL NOT "CONFIRMED" EXISTENCE OF ALLEGED WIRIYAMU "MASSACRE", BUT IT HAS JUMPED ON PROPAGANDA BANDWAGON WITH VENGEANCE BY CITING OTHER ALLEGED MASSACRES. ON JULY 12 MEMBER OF FRELIMO CURRENTLY IN DAR ES SALAAM BUT NORMALLY STATIONED IN TETE PROVINCE DID "CONFIRM" TO GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS THAT WIRIYAMU IS LOCATED NOT FAR FROM RHODESIAN BORDER ALONG STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN MAGUE AND MACUMBURA. HE SAID HE KNEW VILLAGE AS WILLIAMO, NAMED AFTER LOCAL CHIEF CALLED WILLIAM. AT SAME TIME, FRELIMO MEMBER DID NOT COMMENT ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"MASSACRE" ITSELF.

2. FRELIMO ISSUED LENGTHY STATEMENT (BEING POUCHED ADDRESSEES) JULY 13 IN WHICH IT DESCRIBES SERIES OF ALLEGED PORTUGUESE MASSACRES SINCE 1960. SURPRISINGLY, HOWEVER, STATEMENT MAKES ONLY BRIEF MENTION OF WIRIYAMU "MASSACRE".

3. COMMENT: FRELIMO RATIONALE FOR THE ELABORATING ON FATHER HASTINGS' STORY IS NOT CLEAR. SEVERAL HYPOTHESES, HOWEVER, SUGGEST THEMSELVES: (A) INCIDENT NEVER HAPPENED. THIS WOULD NOT, OF COURSE, PREVENT FRELIMO FROM CLAIMING IT TOOK PLACE. (B) INCIDENT DID TAKE PLACE BUT EITHE WAS MUCH LESS SENSATIONAL THAN FATHER HASTINGS DESCRIBED OR FRELIMO HAS LESS INFORMATION ON "MASSACRE" THAN THAT ALREADY PROVIDED BY HASTINGS. (C) FRELIMO IS FOLLOWING POLICY OF NOT COMMENTING ON OR INTERFERING WITH PROPAGANDA UNCOVERED AND NURTURED BY PERSONS AND MEDIA UNRELATED TO FRELIMO. LONGTIME LOCAL FOLLOWER OF FRELIMO TACTICS SAYS THIS WOULD NOT BE FIRST TIME FRELIMO HAS ADOPTED SUCH STRATEGY.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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